

REMARKS

By the present amendment, claim 1 has been amended to replace pronouns “it” and “the latter” by “the ticket,” and to replace the expression “possibly for negating” by “for interrupting the opposition between” and “such interruption” by “this interruption,” claim 1 has also been amended by creating paragraphs and clarifying transitions, and a reference numeral in claim 1 and two reference numerals in claim 8 have been deleted, without scope change.

Additional changes to claims 1 and 8 and to the dependent claims have also been made to improve their format and presentation, without scope change.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 8 are the only independent claims.

I. Objection to the IDS

In the Office Action, the Information Disclosure Statement filed with the U.S. national stage application is objected to on the ground that the documents cited in the International Search Report (ISR) are not part of the record at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

It is believed that copies of the documents cited in the International Search Report (ISR) were sent directly to the USPTO by the European Patent Office pursuant to an agreement between the USPTO and the EPO, since the ISR was prepared by the EPO.

Further, copies of the cited documents are attached to this paper. The documents were listed in the IDS filed with the U.S. national stage application and a copy of the ISR listing the document categories was submitted with the IDS.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner exercise administrative discretion in considering the documents cited in the ISR and listed in the IDS filed with the U.S. national stage application and including a copy of the ISR listing the document categories. See MPEP 707.05.

II. Objections to claim 1

In the Office Action, claim 1 is objected to. Specifically, the recitations “it” on lines 3 and 7 and “possibly” on line 14 are objected to.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

The pronouns “it” and “the latter” have been replaced by “the ticket,” and the expression “possibly for negating” has been replaced by “for interrupting the opposition between” so as to provide proper antecedent basis for “this interruption” (which replaces “such interruption”).

In view of the above, it is submitted that the objections should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the invention as presently claimed is patentable. It is believed that the claims are in allowable condition and a notice to that effect is earnestly requested.

If there is, in the Examiner's opinion, any outstanding issue and such issue may be resolved by means of a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Application No. 10/585,786
Art Unit: 2887

Amendment/Response under Ex Parte Quayle
Attorney Docket No.: 062776

If this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of the response period. Please charge the fee for such extension and any other fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,
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